

REMARKS

In the outstanding Official Action, claims 2, 5-8 and 11 were deemed to be allowable, while claims 1, 3, 4, 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by either Ishida et al or WO'873, for the reasons of record.

In response, independent claims 1 and 9 are herewith amended in order to incorporate the allowable subject matter of now-cancelled claim 2, and it is respectfully submitted that all of the currently-pending claims, as herewith amended, now contain allowable subject matter. Additionally, claim 5 is herewith amended to depend from independent claim 1 in view of the cancellation of claim 2.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the currently-pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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